Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3219

February 17, 2017

The Honorable Scott E. Pruitt
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

I would like to offer my congratulations on your confirmation as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Over the next several years, I look forward to working with you on many important issues, including one in the 19th Congressional District in New York that is currently under review by the EPA.

On September 9, 2016, the EPA proposed to add the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Site, 14 McCaffrey Street, Hoosick Falls ("McCaffrey Street site") to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). A year earlier, in November 2015, the EPA had advised the Village that Hoosick Falls municipal water should not be used for drinking and cooking and recommended that alternate water be provided for users of municipal water. The EPA's action came after water quality tests revealed that the municipal water contained perfluorooctaonic acid (PFOA) levels far in excess of recommended levels.

When the EPA advised the Village to stop using the water for drinking and cooking in 2015, water tests indicated that the municipal water contained PFOA levels above 600 parts per trillion (ppt). At that time, the EPA had established a provisional health advisory level for PFOA of 400 ppt for short-term exposure. In 2016, the EPA established a long-term exposure guideline for PFOA in drinking water of 70 ppt.

The Village of Hoosick Falls is a small community of 3,600 residents. When local residents raised concerns about water quality to their local officials, those officials took necessary steps to raise these concerns with appropriate state and federal officials. Unfortunately, officials were slow to appropriately address the Village's concerns. Only after the EPA made its recommendation in 2015 did the appropriate state and federal agencies begin to address the Village's needs.

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It is my understanding that the McCaffrey Street site meets the necessary requirements to be designated on the NPL and that such designation could occur as soon as March 2017. The local residents support placing the McCaffrey Street site on the NPL and I write to offer my support for such a designation. Even after designation, however, it is imperative that state and federal agencies, including the EPA, work together with local officials and residents to ensure the contamination is remediated and that citizens' health and safety is protected.

Again, congratulations on your nomination and confirmation. I look forward to working with you on this issue as well as many others. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you believe I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

19th District of New York

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR - 4 2017

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

NOW THE OFFICE OF LAND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable John Faso U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Faso:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2017, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, requesting EPA to finalize the listing of the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics site on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) as expeditiously as possible.

The EPA's proposal of September 9, 2016, to add the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics site to the NPL was followed by a 60-day public comment period. Since that time, EPA has been reviewing the comments we received and assessing their impacts, if any, on the decision to list the site. We intend to make a final decision on the NPL listing in the next rulemaking.

I understand your concerns about the need for swift action in order to protect the health of the community. I want to assure you that the EPA will continue to work with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the Village of Hoosick Falls, and the Town of Hoosick to clean up the site as quickly as possible.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Carolyn Levine in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at levine.carolyn@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1859.

Barry N. Breen

Acting Assistant Administrator

Office of Land and Emergency Management

JOHN J FASO 1916 District, New York

1616 Longworth House Opene Building Washington, DC 20515 (262) 226-5614

http://feso.house.gov



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Circuit

SUBJOURNATION OF NUTRIEDN

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

VET CHAIR, SUBLOYMITTET ON FIATROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATCHIAES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DIVELORMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMBRIGANCY MANAGEDI NE

SUBLOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND FRANSH

June 22, 2017

The Honorable Scott E. Pruitt Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

I would like to follow up on a letter that I sent on February 17, 2017 regarding the proposed addition of the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Site, 14 McCaffrey Street, Hoosick Falls ("McCaffrey Street site") to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). In my previous correspondence, I noted that the McCaffrey site would most likely qualify to be designated on the NPL because of the known release of pollutants into public and private drinking water sources.

Action is needed now more than ever. Recent testing at the McCaffrey Street site indicated that the groundwater contained PFOA levels up to 130,000 parts per trillion, nearly seven times higher than the 18,000 parts per trillion previously recorded. In addition, tests have indicated PFOA contamination at other sites in Hoosick Falls.

Residents first raised concerns about water quality several years ago to local officials, who took steps to elevate these concerns to the relevant state and federal offices. Regrettably, these agencies were slow to address local concerns. Clearly, as more testing has occurred, we continue to learn that the PFOA contamination issue in Hoosick Falls is extensive. I encourage you to take all necessary steps to support mitigation and cleanup efforts to protect human health and safety.

I look forward to working with you on this issue. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

cc: Robert Allen, Mayor, Village of Hoosick Falls Mark Surdam, Supervisor, Town of Hoosick

DELHI DISTRICT OFFICE 111 Main Street (Delhi, NY 13753 Phote: (607) 746-9537 KINDLAHOOK DISTRICT OFFICE 2 RUBSON STREET PO BOX 775 KUDGRHOOK, NY 12106 PHONE: (618) 610-8133

KINGSTON DISTRICT OFFICE 721 BROADWAY KINGSTON, NY 12401 PHONE: (846) 514-2322

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 2 7 2017

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE NOW THE OFFICE OF LAND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable John Faso U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Faso:

Thank you for your letters of February 17, 2017, and June 22, 2017, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, requesting the EPA to finalize the listing of the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics site on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) as expeditiously as possible.

The EPA's September 9, 2016, proposal to add the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics site to the NPL was followed by a 60-day public comment period. Since that time, EPA has reviewed the comments we received and assessed their impacts, if any, on the decision to list the site. We intend to make a final decision on the NPL listing in the next rulemaking.

I understand your concerns about the need for swift action in order to protect the health of the community. I want to assure you that the EPA will continue to work with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the Village of Hoosick Falls, and the Town of Hoosick to clean up the site as quickly as possible.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Acting Assistant Administrator

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Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Scott E. Pruitt Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

Over the last two years, thousands of residents in New York and Vermont have been suffering from contaminated municipal and private water supplies from Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). The physical characteristics of PFOA allow it to be easily and quickly transported into ground and surface water. The mobility of PFOA, combined with the long-term persistence of the chemical, creates a unique pollutant that poses a long-term risk to public health.

In addition to PFOA, health concerns have been raised about perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and related perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) due to their similarity to PFOA. The EPA must play a central role in developing the science around perfluorinated compounds and properly regulating them. While we recognize this science is continuing to develop, our communities' experience with PFOA contamination highlights the risk these compounds can pose and demonstrates the urgent need for action.

Following the development of this science and any other prerequisites, there are three steps the EPA should fully consider taking: establishing national primary drinking water regulations for PFCs under the Safe Drinking Water Act; listing PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); and taking action under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to review and regulate PFCs if warranted.

As you know, last year the EPA readjusted its health advisory level for PFOA and PFOS from 400 parts per trillion (ppt) and 200 ppt respectively down to 70 ppt. The EPA must establish a regulation to ensure a safe, uniform level of protection for supplying safe drinking water to consumers. The Safe Drinking Water Act grants the EPA the authority to regulate contaminants, but the agency has been slow to act in making regulatory determinations for these compounds. Current science indicates that PFOA meets several of the criteria for regulation because of adverse effects on the human body, as well as the likelihood that the contaminant will occur in public and private water systems at levels of public health concern.

Additionally, we urge the EPA to fully consider listing PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA to ensure liability is established for releases of these chemicals and also to ensure

reportable quantities are established for any such releases. These chemicals may pose a long-term threat to exposed populations and it is critical the responsible parties remain engaged in mitigating these threats.

In 2016, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act was signed into law with overwhelming bipartisan support. The law modernizes the 40-year-old Toxic Substances Control Act by updating EPA standards for risk evaluations, modernizing the approach to chemical testing, and requiring the agency to expedite the evaluation of the risks associated with bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals. Due to their known bioaccumulative properties, we encourage the EPA to fully embrace the modernizations in the law, and institute more rigorous evaluation of PFCs.

While there is demonstrated evidence for regulating PFCs under the Safe Drinking Water Act, ultimately the decision rests on the judgement of the Administrator determining that regulating the contaminant presents a meaningful opportunity to reduce the risk to public health. We ask that you work closely with scientists and public health experts to establish firm standards for these compounds as warranted and take proper action to regulate them under SDWA and other statutes.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

Peter Welch

Member of Congress



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG - 8 2017

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable John J. Faso House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Faso:

Thank you for your June 27, 2017, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, providing recommendations for the EPA to consider with regards to perfluoroalkyl substances, including perfluoroactanoic acid and perfluoroactane sulfonate. Your letter requests that the agency take action under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the Toxic Substances Control Act, and this response discusses each of these statutes in turn.

With respect to SDWA, in 2016, the agency established health advisories for PFOA and PFOS based on the EPA's assessment of the latest peer-reviewed science, to provide drinking water system operators and state, tribal and local officials, who have the primary responsibility for overseeing these systems, with information on the health risks of these chemicals so they can take the appropriate actions to protect their citizens.

The agency is evaluating PFOA and PFOS as drinking water contaminants in accordance with the process required by SDWA. To regulate a contaminant under SDWA, the agency must find that: (1) it may have adverse health effects; (2) it occurs frequently (or there is a substantial likelihood that it occurs frequently) at levels of public health concern; and (3) there is a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for people served by public water systems.

The agency included six perfluorinated compounds among the contaminants for which water systems were required to monitor under the third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule in 2012. Results of this monitoring effort can be found on the EPA's publicly-available National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) at https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod. In accordance with SDWA, the agency will consider the occurrence data from UCMR 3, along with health assessment information, to make regulatory determinations on whether to initiate the process to develop national primary drinking water regulations.

With respect to CERCLA, the agency does not plan to add PFOA or PFAS to its list of hazardous substances under CERCLA. The agency can, nonetheless, undertake CERCLA fund-led cleanups where a release or threat of a release may present an imminent and substantial danger to public health and the environment. In addition, if there is a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance comingled with other pollutants/contaminants, CERCLA's broad enforcement and cost recovery authorities should be available for cleaning up both contaminants. Moreover, the agency may consider using other

authorities, such as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (e.g., section 7003) and SDWA, to respond to PFAS contamination depending on site- or situation-specific circumstances.

Finally, with respect to TSCA, the agency has taken a number of actions to reduce exposure to PFOA. The agency has worked with individual companies to phase out many of these chemicals, and in 2000, 2002, 2006, and 2015, published regulations under TSCA restricting the return of any of these phased-out chemicals to the U.S. market without EPA review. In January 2006, the EPA initiated the 2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program, and obtained commitments from the leading global companies to reduce PFOA and related chemical emissions and product content by 95% by 2010, and to eliminate them by 2015.

As you note in your letter, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act establishes new requirements under section 6 of TSCA for prioritizing existing chemicals for evaluation and taking action where risks are identified. Consistent with the amended TSCA, the EPA will evaluate whether the remaining ongoing uses of PFOA or related chemicals are a high priority for assessment. If the EPA's assessment of remaining PFOA's or related chemicals' uses indicates risk, the EPA will take action to address the risk.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Matt Klasen in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at Klasen.Matthew@epa.gov or (202) 566-0780.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Shapiro

Acting Assistant Administrator

JOHN J. FASO 19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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http://faso.house.gov



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

August 16, 2017

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES, ENERGY, AND CREDIT -

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

VICE CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

Frances Eargle Designated Federal Officer EPA Local Government Advisory Committee 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Eargle.

I write this letter to strongly recommend the reappointment of Manna Jo Greene to the Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Committee.

Ms. Greene's experience as a community activist began in her teenage years working with Dr. King and other civil rights leaders by lobbying for the passage of the Civil Rights Act. Her leadership within the environmental community has been evident through her role as the Environmental Action Director for Hudson River Sloop Clearwater since 2000.

Ms. Greene has become an exemplary representation of the community-driven spirit of Upstate New York activists through her 11 years of public service. From 2006 to 2013 she served as a member of the Rosendale Town Council and since 2014, she has been a member of the Ulster County Legislature. Over the past three years, Ms. Greene has actively served on the Environmental Justice and Cleaning Up Our Communities subcommittees. Her experiences in healthcare, solid waste management and environmental protection are a testament to her expertise in the field.

I urge you to support Ms. Greene's reappointment to the Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Committee. If you would like additional information or have any questions regarding my recommendation of Manna Jo Greene, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (202) 225-5614.

Sincerely.

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The Honorable John J. Faso United States House of Representatives 1616 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Faso:

Thank you for your letter to Ms. Frances Eargle supporting the nomination of Legislator Manna Jo Greene to serve on EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC). As one of EPA's federal advisory committees, the LGAC serves an indispensable role in providing advice to the Administrator regarding environmental issues affecting local governments and small communities.

We appreciate your input on Legislator Greene and your interest in helping to identify elected and appointed officials of state, local and tribal governments who could make significant contributions to national environmental policy. We are very fortunate to have many excellent candidates from which to choose. We anticipate completing the review and selection process during the Fall of 2017.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or your staff may Christina Moody at 202-564-0260 or via email at Moody.Christina@epa.gov.

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Sincerely

Troy M. Lyons

Associate Administrator

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 6, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt Administrator Environmental Protection Agency Office of the Administrator 1101A 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460

Administrator Pruitt,

We write to you today to voice strong support for the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation which is receiving \$250,000 in funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for long term monitoring of water quality recovery from acid rain.

The Adirondack Park is an ecological gem and contributes greatly to the culture and economy of New York State. The Park which is situated in Northern New York is located directly downwind from major Midwest coal-burning sources. Power generating facilities in the Midwest emit sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, which are the major precursors of acid rain which has caused the acidification of many Adirondack lakes and ponds. Certain geologic and soil characteristics including elevated terrain, thin shallow soils, and impermeable bedrock combined with high amounts of rainfall make the Park one of the most sensitive areas to acidification in North America.

Consequently, this region is a focal point for numerous scientific research efforts designed to identify the processes involved in acidification and to evaluate its effect on aquatic resources as well as the effectiveness of emissions controls. Thanks to actions taken after the enactment of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the invaluable work of the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation, the Adirondacks have experienced a tremendous return to health. Trout populations are returning to once dead lakes, waters and trees are getting healthier, and the park is once again an economic engine in Northern New York.

While we are all pleased to see the Park come back from the brink, work is ongoing and we risk a return to more polluted days should we turn away from this important monitoring. In particular, facilities such as the lab in Ray Brook which collect information for the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation could close if EPA shifts the focus of the programs and grants that have provided an essential funding stream.

Having seen the benefits both ecologically and economically from effective EPA sponsored research, we ask that you work with us to protect ongoing research and monitoring in the Adirondack Park so we never again return to the days of dead lakes and a dying forest.

We appreciate your attention to this matter.

Member of Congress

John Katko

Member of Congress

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

Chris Collins

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Nouise M. Slaughter Member of Congress

Member of Congress



Correspondence Management System

Control Number: AL-18-000-2307

Printing Date: January 10, 2018 01:11:32



Citizen Information

Citizen/Originator: Stefanik, Elise M

Organization:

U.S. House of Representatives

Address:

318 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

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2463 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

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1117 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515

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2332 Rayburn Office Building House, Washington, DC 20515

Constituent:

N/A

Committee:

N/A

Sub-Committee:

N/A

Control Information

Control Number:

AL-18-000-2307

Alternate Number:

Elise

Status: **Due Date:** Pending

Closed Date:

N/A 0

Letter Date:

Jan 2, 2018

of Extensions: Received Date:

Dec 6, 2017

Addressee:

Dec 6, 2017

Addressee Org:

EPA

Contact Type:

LTR (Letter)

Priority Code:

Normal

AD-Administrator

Signature:

AAA-OAR-Acting Assistant

Signature Date:

N/A

Administrator-OAR

File Code:

301_1051_a Records of Senior Officials - Historically significant records of senior officials

Subject:

RE: SUPPORT FOR THE ADIRONDACK LAKE SURVEY CORPORATION

Instructions:

AA-OAR-Prepare draft response for signature by the Assistant Administrator for OAR

Instruction Note:

N/A

General Notes:

N/A

CC:

Denis Borum - OCIR-CA-WPTT

OW - Office of Water -- Immediate Office



Correspondence Management System Control Number: AL-18-000-2307

Printing Date: January 10, 2018 01:11:32



Lead Information

Lead Author:

Karen Orehowsky

Office:

OAR-OAP-CAMD

Due Date:

Jan 2, 2018

Assigned Date:

Jan 3, 2018

Complete Date:

N/A

Instruction:

N/A

Lead Assignments:

Assigner	Office	Assignee	Assigned Date	Due Date	Complete Date	
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Matthew Davis	Dec 19, 2017	Jan 2, 2018	N/A	
	Instruction:					
Matthew Davis Sabrina Hamilton	OCIR-CA-AT	OAR	Jan 2, 2018	Jan 2, 2018	N/A	
	Instruction: This should be a pretty straightforward template response along the lines of a support for funding a grant letter. I've put in some template language that I stole from a DERA response letter, so it may need some reworking, but you get the idea from the DERA edited text, hopefully. OAR OAR-OAP Jan 3, 2018 Jan 2, 2018 N/A					
	OAR OAR-OAP Jan 3, 2018 Jan 2, 2018 N/A Instruction: OAR - Prepare response for the signature of William L. Wehrum, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR).					
Deirdre Clarke	OAR-OAP	Karen Orehowsk	y Jan 3, 2018	Jan 2, 2018	N/A	
	Instruction: N/A					

Supporting Information

Supporting Author: N/A

Supporting Assignments:

Assigner	Office	Assignee	Assigned Date
	Media mode	No Record Found.	NOES-DIG-ET IA CONDINED LOCAL

History

Action By	Office	Action	Date
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Assign R2 as lead office	Dec 6, 2017
Karen Story	R2	Accepted the group assignment	Dec 7, 2017
Karen Story	R2	Assign Carsen Mata as lead	Dec 7, 2017
Karen Story	R2	Retracted Assignment	Dec 19, 2017
Karen Story	R2	Sent to Kathy Mims for Reassignment Request	Dec 19, 2017
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Changed Signature RA-R2-Regional Administrator - Region 2 AAA-OAR-Acting Assistant Administrator-OAR	Dec 19, 2017
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Changed Instruction RA-R2-Prepare draft response for signature by the Regional Administrator for Region 2 AA-OAR-Prepare draft	Dec 19, 2017



Correspondence Management System Control Number: AL-18-000-2307 Printing Date: January 10, 2018 01:11:32



Action By	Office	Action	Date
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Request for Reassignment Approved	Dec 19, 2017
Kathy Mims	OCIR	Assign Matthew Davis as lead	Dec 19, 2017
Matthew Davis	OCIR-CA-AT	Assign OAR as lead office	Jan 2, 2018
Sabrina Hamilton	OAR	Accepted the group assignment	Jan 3, 2018
Sabrina Hamilton	OAR	Assign OAR-OAP as lead office	Jan 3, 2018
Deirdre Clarke	OAR-OAP	Accepted the group assignment	Jan 3, 2018
Deirdre Clarke	OAR-OAP	Assign Karen Orehowsky as lead	Jan 3, 2018
Karen Orehowsky	OAR-OAP-CAMD	Take task	Jan 3, 2018

Comments

Commentator	Comment	Date
Karen Story	This assignment was assigned in Region 2's CWD for a draft response, but CWD is recommending that this gets reassigned to HQ - specifically OAR.	Dec 19, 2017

JOHN J. FASO 19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES, ENERGY, AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

VICE CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

December 13, 2017

Hon. Howard Zucker, MD Commissioner of Health New York State Department of Health Corning Tower 11 Floor Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12237

Hon. Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Commissioner
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
NYC Watershed Program
59-17 Junction Boulevard, 13th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373

Hon. Peter D. Lopez Region 2 Administrator United States Environmental Protection Agency 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Director Lopez, Dr. Zucker, Commissioner Sapienza:

I write in support of the Town of Middletown's request to cease solicitation and acquisition under the New York City Land Acquisition Program (NYCLAP) until further analysis can be funded and completed.

As outlined in Delaware County's recent evaluation, there is significant concern regarding how local economies can grow and be sustained as additional land is acquired through the NYCLAP. The Town of Middletown faces extraordinary circumstances. First, nearly 16% percent of land in the Town of Middletown is either owned by New York City or has easements pursuant to the City's WAC program. In addition, New York State owns 11 percent of the land in the Town.

The Town of Middletown has completed a study that indicates there are approximately 1,200 acres out of 62,000 acres that can be developed to increase the tax base. Due to a lack of infrastructure and natural barriers it is unlikely that much of the available 1,200 acres is actually developable. Therefore, any further land acquisition by New York City would be extremely detrimental to Middletown.

DELHI DISTRICT OFFICE 111 MAIN STREET DELHI, NY 13753 PHONE: (607) 746–9537 KINDERHOOK DISTRICT OFFICE 2 HUDSON STREET PO BOX 775 KINDERHOOK, NY 12106 PHONE: (518) 610–8133

KINGSTON DISTRICT OFFICE 721 BROADWAY KINGSTON, NY 12401 PHONE: (845) 514–2322 JOHN J. FASO 19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

1616 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–5614

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES, ENERGY, AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

VICE CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

As you know, this part of my district has been devastated by flooding in the past. This community is resilient and has truly rallied, overcoming one challenge after another to rebuild and recover. However, if additional land in the Town is acquired pursuant to the NYCLAP, the Town will not have developable land to rebuild and recover. The Town's request to cease solicitation and acquisition is necessary to preserve the vitality of this upstate community.

The Town's preliminary research has established sufficient supporting evidence of loss of tax base and lack of developable land to validate a further funded analysis. Thank you for your time. Please keep my office apprised of this matter.

Sincerely,

John J. Faso

Member of Congress

JJF:mvm